

SENATE RESOLUTION 304

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Arvin Ledford upon his receipt of his high school diploma.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those sterling individuals who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment, have achieved excellence; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Arvin Ledford is one such extraordinary individual who is most assuredly deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ledford was recently presented with a World War II Honorary Diploma from the State of Tennessee Department of Education, effective from the time of his original graduation date of May 18, 1945; and

WHEREAS, the only son of Bartley and Hilda Ledford, Arvin Ledford was born in Bybee on October 5, 1926; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ledford began his education in the public schools at Liberty Hill and finished eighth grade at Roy Knight before attending Cocke County High School, where his education took a detour at an assembly in the school auditorium on December 8, 1941; and

WHEREAS, upon hearing that there were a superfluous number of jobs available due to so many people serving in the military during World War II, Arvin Ledford left school and traveled to Ohio for employment; and

WHEREAS, upon his arrival in Cleveland, Mr. Ledford obtained a job at an A & P Store; he then worked at the Fire City Foundry and U.S. Aluminum, where he was working when turned eighteen in 1944; and

WHEREAS, upon his return to Tennessee, he was immediately called into service, honorably serving twenty-three months in the armed forces, stationed in the Marshall Islands, Luzon, and Leyte; and

WHEREAS, following his tour of duty, Arvin Ledford worked at the local Ford company as a mechanic, worked at the Wall Tube plant, and worked at the American Enka plant; today, he keeps busy repairing lawn mowers and whittling; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep Christian beliefs, Arvin Ledford is an active and devout member of Liberty Hill Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ledford's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for his family, his school, his community, and this State; and

WHEREAS, his accomplishment aside, Mr. Ledford is most thankful for the love and support he receives from his wife, Maxine; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to honor and congratulate this exemplary individual on his accomplishment; his dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby salute and congratulate Arvin Ledford upon his receipt of his World War II Honorary Diploma, extend our deepest gratitude for his years of service to the United States and to Tennessee, and offer him our best wishes for success in all of his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.